

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
GROUP 1725
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q84298

Hitoshi KIDOKORO, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/517,656

Group Art Unit: 1725

Confirmation No.: 1603

Examiner: Heinrich, Samuel M.

Filed: December 13, 2004

For: LASER MACHINING APPARATUS AND CONTROL METHOD FOR THE
APPARATUS

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

MAIL STOP AF

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 17, 2006, please consider the remarks as submitted herewith on the accompanying pages.

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5 and 6 have been examined.

I. **Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over JP 57186378 to Yoshihide (previously cited) in view of JP 405022941, JP 358141689 and JP 407111427.**

A. **Claims 1 and 5**

Claim 1 recites a thinning-out means, into which the command pulse sets are inputted, for switching a number of pulses thinned out from the command pulse sets, according to a pulse width